

ITEM #5

Reconsideration of Certain Technical Matters of Los Angeles Region Bacteria TMDLs for

Santa Monica Bay Beaches

Marina del Rey Harbor

LA Harbor, Inner Cabrillo Beach

Ballona Creek

Malibu Creek

March 19, 2013

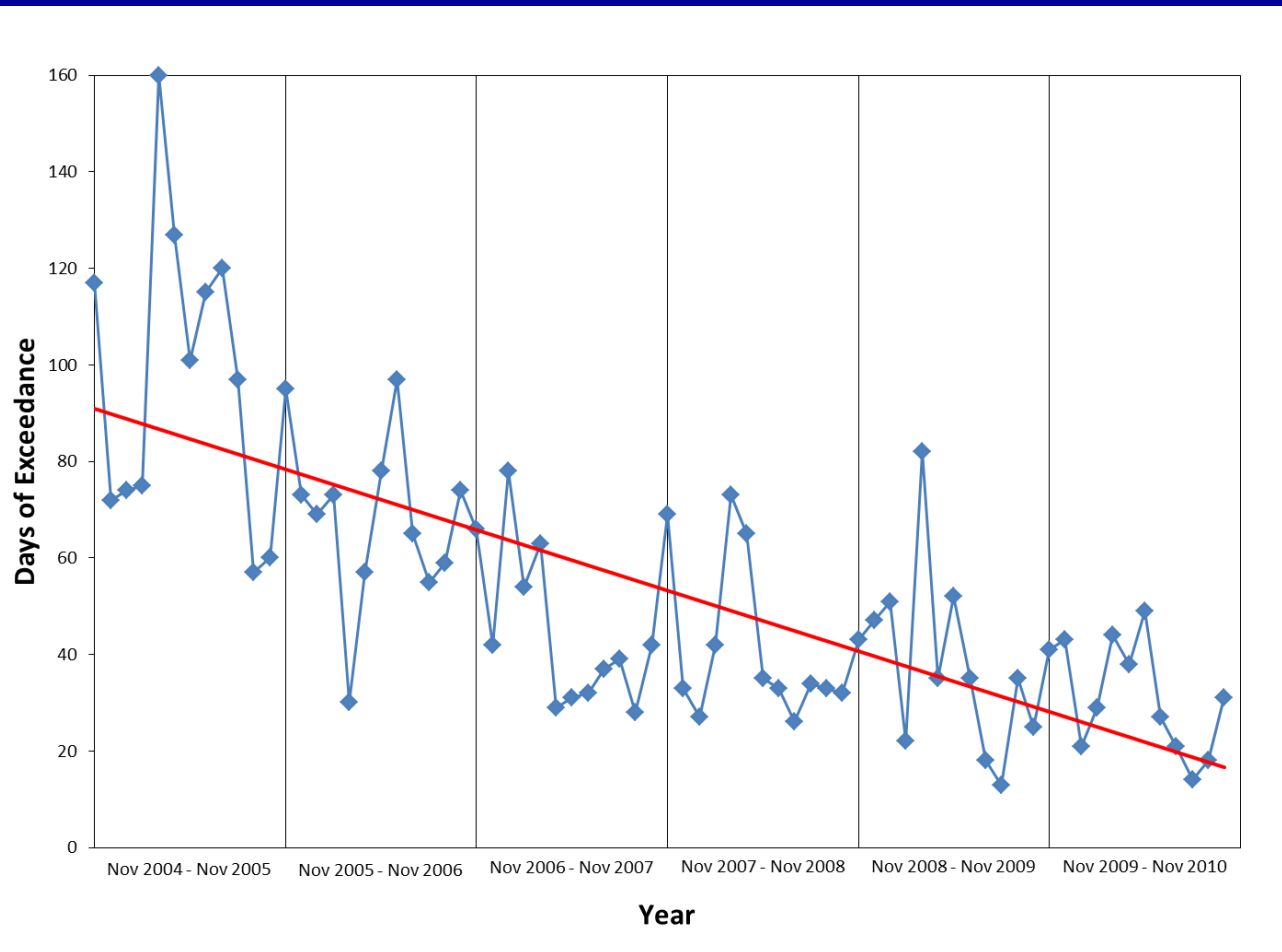
Introduction

- TMDLs protect recreational beneficial uses and human health
- Employ a reference system/ anti-degradation approach
- Include scheduled “reconsiderations”



Santa Monica Bay

Santa Monica Bay Dry Weather Trend:



Re-evaluation of Data

**Comparison of Exceedance Rates at Leo Carrillo Beach
(pre 2004 and 2004-2010 beach data)**

Sampling Location	Summer Dry	Winter Dry	Wet
Pre 2004	0%	3%	22%
2004-2010 (Point zero)	10%	10%	22%

Reference System - Beaches

- 2006 SCCWRP reference beach study:
 - Large watersheds ~30% exceedance
 - Medium watersheds ~12% exceedance
 - Small watersheds ~7% exceedance
- Leo Carrillo/Arroyo Sequit is still best reference beach

Reference System - Creeks

- Freshwater sites based on SCCWRP studies
 - Dry-weather exceedance probability (1.6%)
 - Wet-weather exceedance probability (19%)
 - Consistent with the Los Angeles River and Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDLs
- Estuary/Lagoon reference site remains consistent with the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria TMDL

Geometric Mean

- Reliable measure of long-term water quality
- Applied in conjunction with single sample objectives
 - both derived from epidemiological studies
- Can be calculated as rolling or discrete over different time periods

Geometric Mean

- Depending on calculation method:
 - Rate of exceedance varies little
 - Number of exceedances varies greatly
- Proposed method:
 - Rolling geometric mean
 - Rolling six-week periods
 - Calculated weekly
 - Five or more samples

Natural Sources Exclusions

- Alternative to reference system/anti-degradation
 - After all anthropogenic sources controlled, a certain exceedance frequency permitted
- Premature at this time
 - Insufficient source identification information
 - Insufficient documentation that anthropogenic sources have been controlled

Recommended Implementation Schedules

- Santa Monica Bay:
 - Wet-weather extension from 10 years to 18 years due to integrated approach
- Marina del Rey, Ballona Creek, Malibu:
 - Wet-weather extension to July 15, 2021 due to integrated approach
- No change to Inner Cabrillo Beach

13 Comment Letters

- Natural Source Exclusion Approach should be used
- Zero summer exceedance days conflicts with reference beach/anti-degradation approach
 - Leo Carrillo exceeds single samples in summer

Staff Recommendation

Approve revisions to Basin Plan
Amendments

